

Dublin, May 8. 1856

Dear Miss May - Will you send on the  
name of "Miss Smith, Glenageary House, Dalkey,  
Dublin, Ireland" to Mr Bailey, as a subscriber to  
his paper the Newport News, Newport, Kentucky. This lady  
lives with Miss Bruce of whom you will hear a great deal  
from Parker Pillsbury as one of his most helpful converts.  
Miss Bruce has subscribed for the Standard & Liberator -  
and Miss Smith in the same house will take the  
Newport News in consequence of the recommendation  
of the last Advocate. I mean to send him a copy of  
that number by the mail. A very slight word of  
encouragement for a great way (literally & figuratively)  
when it comes from a distance, and I would like him  
to see the paper & to get the order for the paper down to  
getters. I have got twelve subscribers for him which I will  
put to your credit. If for the paper & 1/2 for postage.

You will learn from P. Pillsbury that Miss Estlin has been  
troubled with such a succession of headaches that she  
has gone to Dawlish in Devonshire to recruit, accompanied  
by our Manchester anti-slavery friend Miss Whitelesse, with  
whom P. P. is much more intimately acquainted than I am,  
having shared more than any in the same house with her  
at her sister Mrs May's. She is a sensible, quiet, resolute  
person, just the very kind of companion Miss Estlin  
would like & respect. I am assured by her and by Miss  
E. that nothing else in the matter with her - and if she  
consents herself to take her ease, and rest her friends the  
Seasons I think she may come round to be able for more  
active life in future. It is my opinion, and I fear it is  
her that she does wrong to let the idea of a memoir of her  
father press upon her. If written & printed - it would either be  
published or unpublished - offered for sale or from away.  
If unpublished nobody will know of its contents but the  
recipients of the book who already know the subject  
personally or by reputation. If published it would  
hardly sell - for Miss E. is not a practical writer & there is  
a charm over ~~it~~ a subject having no extraordinary  
or romantic interest. And although her father was an  
eminent man there are happily many more of them  
than need with biographers - the ready public are impatient



of biographies, poetry, or any thing new, unless it  
be original & rare. I think Miss E. feels that she  
ought to write this memoir - her immediate relations  
and concerns seem to be all opposed to the idea,  
for what reason I do not know - but for the reason  
I have given I think it would be better she felt herself  
free from such an undertaking, which to be well done  
demands such an outlay of time & labor & money.

One consequence of Lord Carlisle's call upon me was that  
P. Pillsbury left his card at the castle and received an  
invitation to an interview next day of which he will  
give you all the particulars. He was most kindly &  
cordially received and seems to have enjoyed the visit very  
much. You asked me what Lord C. said to me about  
the cause - nothing very special except that he considered  
it one of the most important of all the most important  
movements of the day. As I suppose a private call  
from the Secretary to an ordinary tradesman is to say  
the least very uncommon - I took care to let him lead  
the conversation and to answer rather than to ask.  
I mean I wished to avoid any thing like mortifying him  
to commit himself - by saying any thing that from his  
official position he might have been misunderstood. I talked  
a great deal for I saw that he wished to hear what I had  
to say about the abolitionists, our own country, the priests  
& many other subjects on which I have very decided opinions.  
- I suspected after he left me that Miss Martineau had  
something to do with the call, and accordingly gave her  
credit for this, I wrote to thank her. She sent me word  
that she had written to Lord Carlisle about me - & I  
think it probable that my second card letter to him  
gave him an opportunity which he might have otherwise  
wanted. But this is very egotistical & I would  
not have written it had you not asked me.

Yesterday I heard from Mrs. Edmonstone that  
Frederick Douglass is coming over to this country. Miss  
Pitts to make the harbor. Miss Suffrage is going for him.  
I saw a letter yesterday from Miss Thompson of Edinburgh  
daughter of the celebrated Dr. Andrew Thompson of the old  
English Anti-Slavery times, in which she calls Julia  
an insolent little Bantam here, talks of her "ridiculing the ladies"  
and says that her conduct was disgusting.



The best way of doing with the like of her is to keep  
her <sup>never</sup> <sup>myself</sup> ~~kindly~~ except to show from time to time that  
her conduct is inconsistent & hypocritical - which it  
actually is.

My opinion is decided that Parker  
Pillbury will pay for what ~~it~~ it has cost you. I  
hope good things from the Dublin converts - Mrs. Norton,  
Miss Bruce & Miss Lloyd. They are working for a serious  
~~and~~ American event in their countries. But there  
is a consideration that requires much deliberation.  
Where is the agent? Who is the fit man? How could  
he be supported? What could he do? I would not  
wonder if Parker himself would like it - but he would  
find it a more difficult matter to live in a house  
of his own & make a stir in London than he has  
had to go about from house to house as the (always)  
welcome guest of his friends.

It strikes me that  
in order fully to impress our educated & thinking  
classes some such man as Phillips is required -  
who could touch the subject at all points and who  
literary & well furnished mind would put him on equal  
terms with the people he might have to cope with.

S. R. Fane, Butler Buildings, is the agent that I greatly  
prefer in Liverpool. He is first class as to respectability,  
and I think makes most reasonable charges.

I do not think the delay of the Bazaar was of any  
consequence whatever. I think that generally the  
contents came in very good time.

In the duplicates that I held over from time to time  
of the various publications you sent - held by me  
rather than for them into unworthy hands or to  
no purpose - I found a most useful magazine  
for Mrs. Turner and Miss Boye - and show the  
advantage of having some one person to dispose such  
things to, to whom this kind of business is no  
trouble but a pleasure. Mrs. Child is not yet come  
to hand - but it will be all in good time.

Could nothing be done to induce H. C. Wright not  
to say the good things he says in such a repulsive  
disfusting way? He is a good fellow. Did you ever try  
him? Can you tell me who writes such articles as  
the "Blind that will see" in the Standard of April 18?



It is admirable. It seems to me that the hints  
Hovey came brings forth the very essence of truth in  
such articles as these. P. P. says they are not Hovey's  
I know they are not Hovey's - I mean those written  
in that earnest and substantial style - though Hovey  
are excellent in their way & I like & enjoy them.

I hope you will keep me advised how matters  
go on with you. Your letters are always most welcome  
to us and will be very valuable just now that I  
have so many more sympathisers.

Yours truly  
Richard Webb